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Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 STATE 195530
ORIGIN NODS-00

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 /001 R

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APPROVED BY: UNA:AFHOLLOWAY
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S E C R E T STATE 195530

NODIS
FOR AMBASSADOR YOUNG

FOLLOWING REPEAT PRETORIA 4120 SENT ACTION SECSTATE 16 AUG 77

QUOTE S E C R E T PRETORIA 4120

NODIS CHEROKEE

FOR THE SECRETARY FROM AMBASSADOR BOWDLER

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: RH, PDEV
SUBJECT: MESSAGE TO FON MIN BOTHA

REF: STATE 193176,

1. I RELAYED YOUR MESSAGE TO PIK BOTHA AT 8:30 A.M. BEFORE HE WENT INTO CABINET MEETING.

2. HE WAS PLEASED WITH POSITIVE REACTION AND ASKED ME TO PASS THE FOLLOWING MESSAGE: "WHY DON'T YOU SET THE MACHINERY

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IN MOTION? DO YOU HAVE ANY SUGGESTIONS ON WHEN AND WHERE?"

3. PIK SAID THAT WHEN HE SPOKE TO YOU YESTERDAY HE MENTIONED THAT HE HOPED THE MEETING WOULD TAKE PLACE AS SOON AS POSSIBLE. HE NOTED THAT THE RHODESIANS WERE PRESSING HIM FOR A BRIEFING ON THE LONDON TALKS. HE WAS PUTTING THEM OFF BUT HE WOULD PROBABLY HAVE TO VISIT SALISBURY ON THURSDAY. HE DID NOT LOOK

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FORWARD TO THIS SINCE IN LINE WITH HIS PLEDGE TO YOU AND DAVID OWEN HE COULD NOT DISCUSS THE PROPOSALS EXCEPT IN THE MOST GENERAL TERMS OR LET ON THAT HE HAS THE TEXT.

4. PIK ALSO BROUGHT UP THE TIMING FOR GAZETTING THE ADMINISTRATOR-GENERAL FOR NAMIBIA. HE SAID HE MENTIONED THIS TO YOU YESTERDAY. HE CLAIMED THE PM HAD PROMISED JUDGE STEYN THAT HE COULD PICK HIS DATE. STEYN WANTED THE OFFICIAL DESIGNATION TO BE PUBLISHED IN THE GAZETTE OF AUGUST 23 SO THAT HE COULD ASSUME HIS DUTIES IN TIME TO OPEN THE NON-POLITICAL, MULTI-RACIAL SWA AGRICULTURAL FAIR ON SEPTEMBER 1 AS HIS FIRST OFFICIAL ACT. PIK SAID HE HAD STOPPED THE GAZETTING FOR THAT DATE AS HE DID NOT WANT THIS MATTER TO PREJUDICE ARRANGEMENTS FOR A SUMMIT MEETING. HE DOUBTED WHETHER HE COULD HOLD OFF THE STEYN DESIGNATION BEYOND SEPTEMBER 1.

5. PIK ALSO EXPRESSED "DEEP CONCERN" OVER A CONVERSATION JOHN GRAHAM HAD WITH DAVID LOW (SAG CHARGE IN LONDON) YESTERDAY. PIK SAID THAT GRAHAM HAD INTRODUCED THE CONECPT OF A UN ROLE IN INTEGRATING THE VARIOUS RHODESIAN FORCES (EXISTING SMITH GOVERNMENT FORCES AND PATRIOTIC FRONT UNITS) DURING THE TRANSITION PERIOD. READING PARA-GRAPH 11(C) OF THE PROPOSALS, HE SAID THAT NO MENTION WAS MADE OF THIS CONCEPT WHICH WAS CERTAIN TO CAUSE SERIOUS DIFFICULTIES WITH SMITH. HE HOPES THAT THIS

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WAS A MISUNDERSTANDING ON THE PART OF LOW WHO IS NEW TO THE JOB. BRAND FOURIE WOULD BE CALLING GRAHAM FOR CLARIFICATION. BOWDLER

UNQUOTE VANCE

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Subject: MESSAGE TO FON MIN BOTHA
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